



THE BOOK OF

F

This book is all about flowers and flags, fossils and
furs, and lots of other exciting F's.

a Golden Book

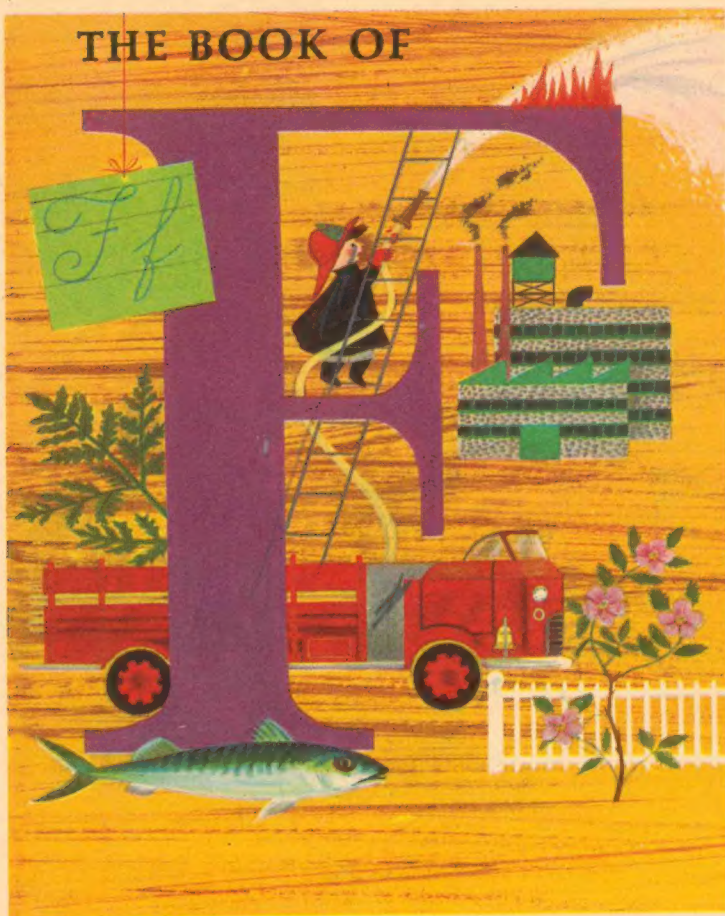


This
Golden Book
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factory



Many things we use
are made by machine
in a factory.

A factory must have power
to keep its machines
running.

(See *engine* in the E book.)

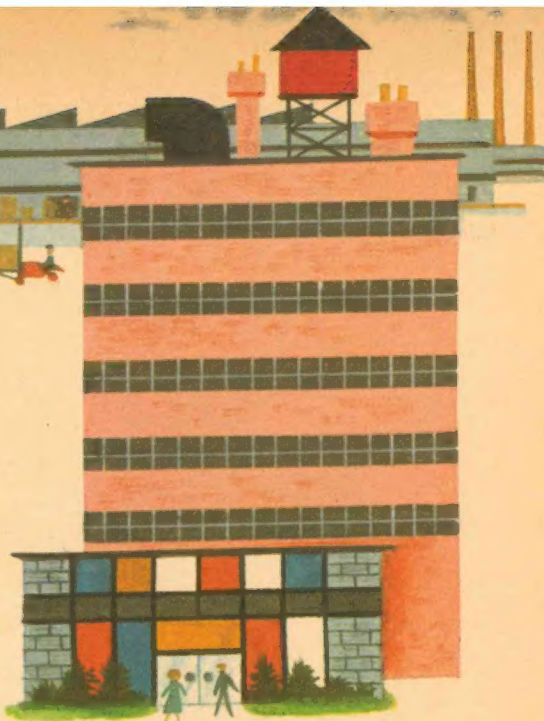
A factory must have workers
to keep the machines
running right.

A factory must have materials
to work with.

If it is a dress factory
it needs cloth and thread
and patterns.

If it is a furniture factory
it needs wood
and nails
and paint
and varnish.

If it is an automobile factory
it needs metal parts.



A factory must have an office.
It must have men there
to plan the work
and to sell
what is made
and to keep track
of everything.

A factory must have
a shipping department.

It must send out what it makes
by truck
or by train
or by ship.

Many people work in factories.
A factory is a busy place.

fair

At a fair people show
the best things
they have made or grown.

At a county fair or state fair
people show their best fruits
and vegetables
and farm animals.

They show grain and flour,
jelly and jam,
cakes and pies
and sewing.

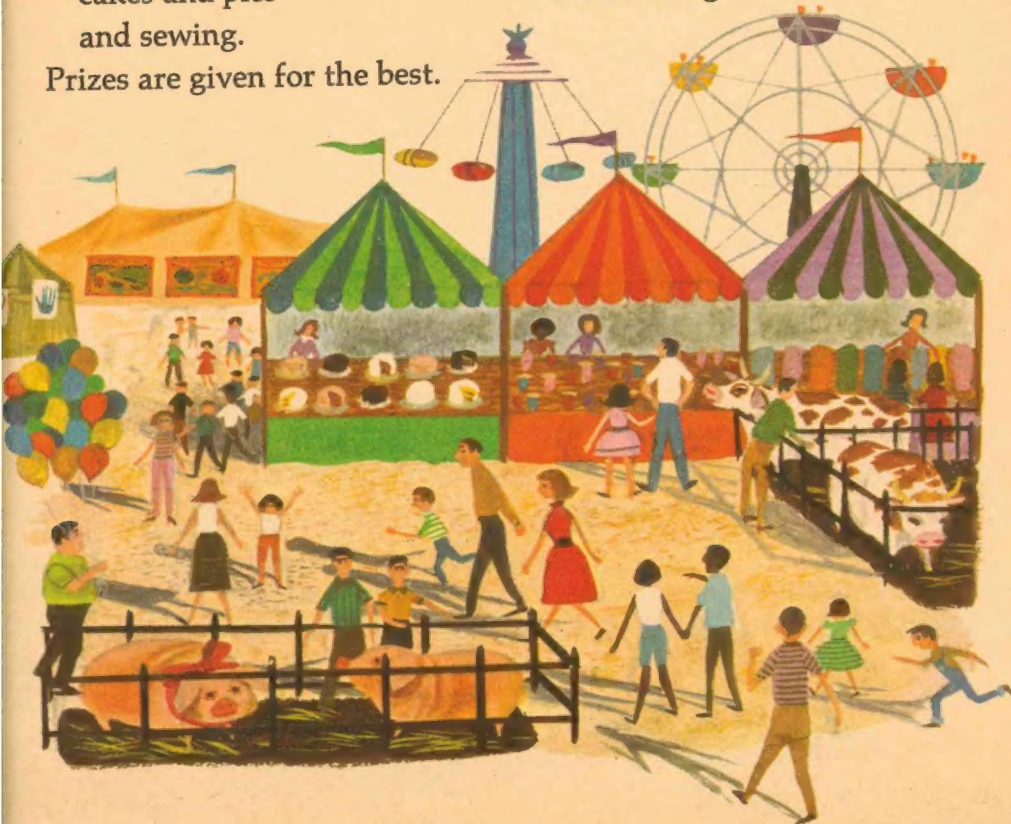
Prizes are given for the best.

At a trade fair
machines
and things made in factories
are shown.

At a world's fair
many countries show
whatever they think is best
about their country.

There are places to eat
at a fair.

There are many things to see.
Often there are rides to take.
It is fun to go to a fair.



fairy



A fairy is a tiny, magical,
make-believe creature.
Sometimes fairies are very good
and helpful.
But they are often mischievous!



If we see dewdrops glisten
on a cobweb on the grass,
it may mean that fairies
have been dancing there.
And though we know
that fairies don't exist,
it is fun to believe in them.

fairy tales



We read about fairies
in fairy tales.
We all know Cinderella
and her fairy godmother.
There are many tales
with fairy creatures.
There are stories
of brownies
who work
about the house.
There are stories
of mischievous pixies.
There are stories
of leprechauns
who live under the ground.
They hide pots of fairy gold.



family



A family lives together
in a home.

A family has a father.

Most fathers go to work
almost every day.

A family has a mother.

Most mothers cook meals
and look after the house.

Some mothers go to work.

Families may have children.

Children in the same family
are called brothers and sisters.

Families have

grandparents

and they may have

aunts and uncles and cousins.

These people are all related
to each other.

They are called relatives.

A family works together.

Everyone in the family helps.

A family plays together
sometimes.

They may go on picnics.

They may watch television
or listen to music.



They may play games.

They may read together.

In families

we learn to work and play

and live together happily.

We learn the fun of doing things
for others, in a family.

farm

Food is grown on a farm.

Some farms grow
many kinds of food.

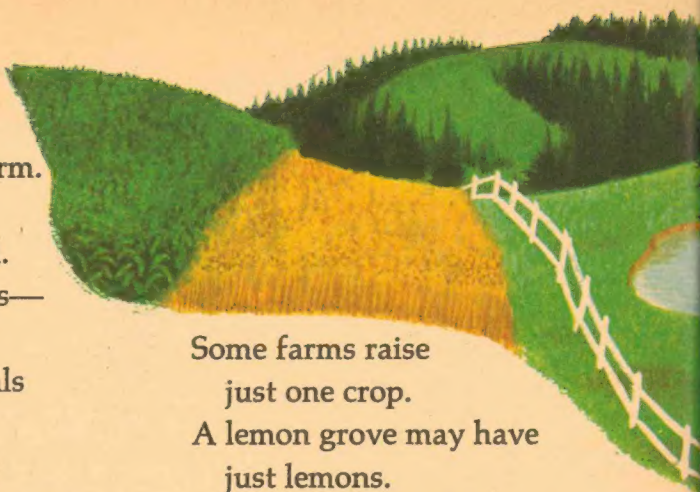
They may grow grains—
corn and wheat.

They may raise animals
for meat—
cows and chickens,
pigs and sheep.

They may grow vegetables—
beans and peas,
cabbage and squash.

They may have an orchard
with fruit trees—
apples, pears, peaches.

On such farms,
there are many kinds
of work.



Some farms raise
just one crop.

A lemon grove may have
just lemons.

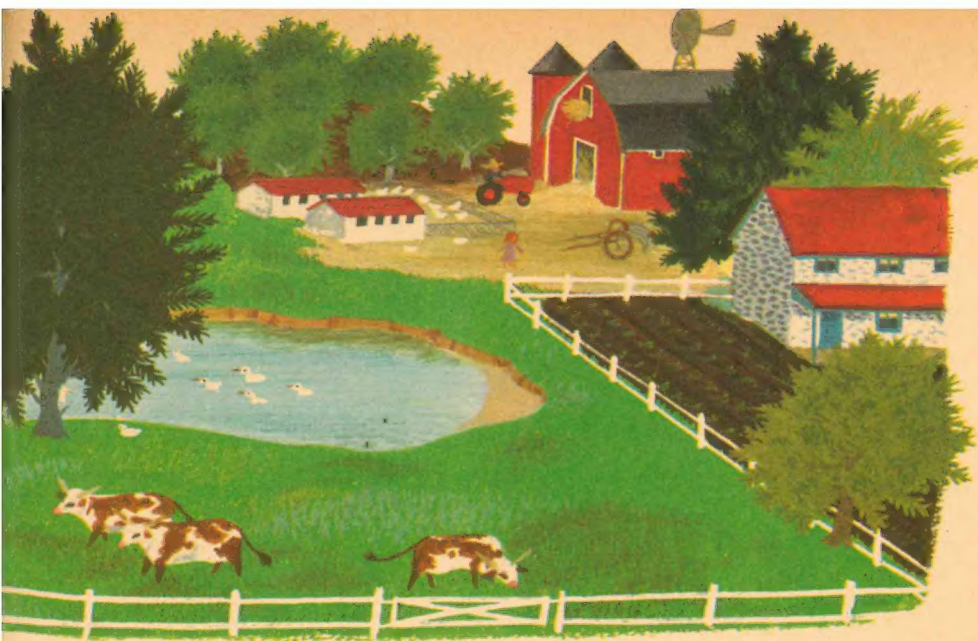


An orange grove may have
just orange trees.



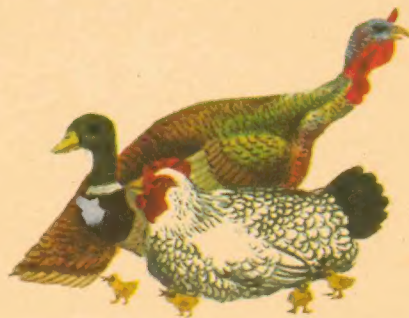
An olive grove may have
just olive trees.





Some farms just raise cows
to get milk and butter.
(See *dairy farm* in the D book.)

A cattle ranch raises
just cattle.
It must have lots of land
for them to graze.
It has cowboys to watch
the herds.



Some farms raise
just chickens or turkeys
or ducks.
We call them poultry farms.
Some small farms raise
just vegetables for market.
We call them truck farms.
We need many kinds of farms
and farmers to raise our food.



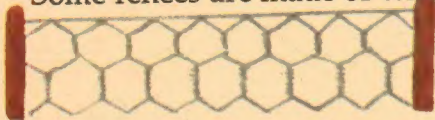
fence



A fence shuts in a yard
or a field.
It is a kind of wall.
Some old fences
are made of split logs.
We call them rail fences.



Some fences are made of wire.



The wire may have barbs.



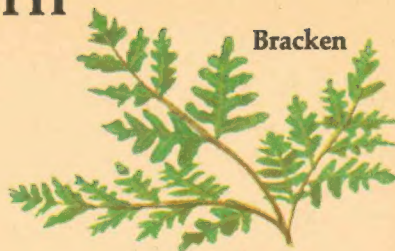
Barbs make it harder
to go over or through
the fence.

Some fences are made of stone.



A fence has a gate or a stile
instead of a door.

fern



A fern is a feathery plant.
A fern has roots,
a stem, and leaves.
The leaves are called fronds.



But it has no flowers.
It has no seeds.
Instead of seeds,
a fern grows tiny spores.
(See *mushroom* in the M book.)
The tiny spores fly on the wind.
They fall to the ground.
From them grow new plants.
These become tiny ferns.

Some ferns grow as tall as trees.
They grow best
where it is
very sheltered
and damp.

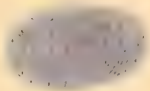


Shoestring
Fern



Tree
Fern

fingerprints

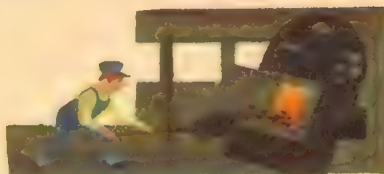


When you touch a surface,
you leave fingerprints on it.
Sometimes they are hard to see,
but they are always there.

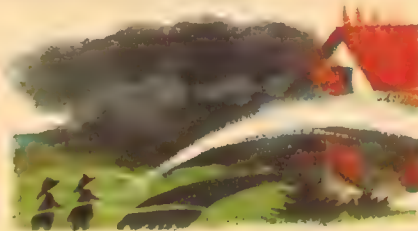
The interesting thing
about fingerprints
is that no one else
has fingerprints like yours.
Fingerprints are useful records.
Footprints are too.
Hospitals may make footprints
of new babies.

fire

Fire burns. It is hot.
Its heat can cook food.



Fire can do work.
It makes engines run.
(See *engines* in the E book.)
Fire can also do harm.
It can burn a house.



It can burn a forest.



Fire can burn us.
And a burn hurts.
Even a small fire
can grow large
and do harm.
We must be very careful
with fire.

fireman



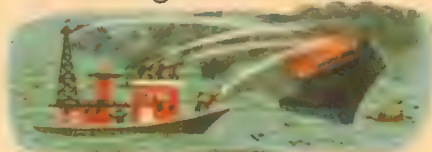
Firemen fight fires.
When a fire starts,
someone turns on an alarm.
It warns the firemen
in the fire house.



They jump onto fire trucks
and drive to the fire.
They sound sirens
to tell cars
to get out of their way.
They go fast.
For a fire can spread fast.



On lakes and rivers
firemen may have fireboats.
Airplanes and parachutes help
firemen get to forest fires.



Tractors are used
to dig trenches
around the fire
to keep it from spreading.



Firemen do hard work.

fish



Fish live in water.

They swim about.

They steer with their fins.

They breathe through their gills.

Their gills take air
from the water.

Some fish eat plants.

Many fish eat other fish.

Big ones eat small ones.

Still bigger ones eat big ones.

Some fish are small enough
to fit in your hand.

Some grow larger than a man!

Some fish live in rivers.



Fish have eyes but no eyelids.

They have bones

but no legs or arms.

They have blood,

but it is not warm like ours.

Fish are cold-blooded animals.

Most fish lay eggs.

As soon as the eggs are laid

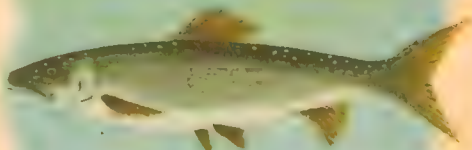
they are left alone to hatch.

Fish do not care for their babies.

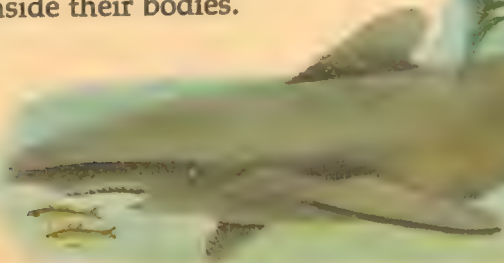
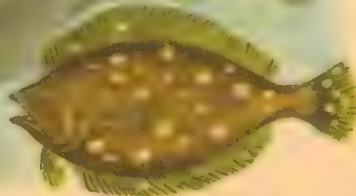
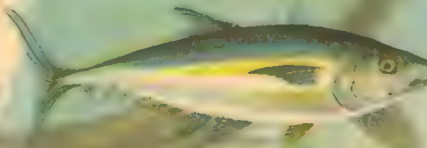
Very few fish hatch their eggs
inside their bodies.



Some fish live in lakes.



Many fish live in the oceans.



fishermen

Men who catch fish
are called fishermen.
They try to catch fish
that are good to eat.
Some fishermen go fishing
for fun.

They may wade in a stream
and throw out a line
attached to a fishing rod.
This is called "casting."

They may sit on a bank
with a fishing pole
and a long string on it.
The string has a fish hook
on the end.

Bait is put on the hook
to attract the fish.
Bait may be a worm, a fly,
or pieces of fish.

When a fish bites the bait
the fisherman
pulls in his string.
He has caught a fish!
Many fishermen fish from a boat.
It may be a row boat.
It may be a big sea-going boat.



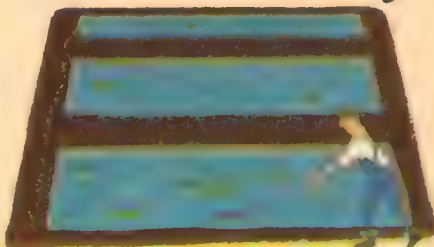
The fishermen may be fishing
for great big fish.
Many fishermen do not fish
just for fun.
Many fishermen catch fish
for a living.
Fishing is their job.
They live beside the sea.
They go far out to sea to fish.



The sea may be stormy.
They may get cold and wet.
Fishing is hard work.
But still they go.
Many fishermen
whose work is fishing
use nets to catch fish.
The nets have floats on one edge.
These floats are light.
They float on top of the water.
They keep the net from sinking.
The floats may be
hollow glass balls.
Or they may be cork.
Fishermen look for fish
swimming together.
We say the fish swim in schools.
A big school of fish
makes a good catch.

The fishermen load their boats
with fish from the nets.
Some fishermen build big traps.
They use a sort of basket.
The fish swim in.
They cannot swim out again.
The fishermen catch them.
There are many ways
to catch fish.
Some fishermen use spears.
Some even use bows and arrows.
But still the big ones
often get away.

fish hatchery



Some young fish are raised
in fish hatcheries.
Fish eggs hatch there.
The young fish are fed
and kept safe.
Then they are put into lakes
and streams
where fishermen like to fish.



flag



A flag is a kind of sign.

It is made of cloth.

It may stand for a country

or a state

or for some group.

Every country has a flag.

A country's flag deserves honor
and respect from its people.

It flies over public buildings
of that country.



The United Nations
has a flag.

It stands for all the countries
working together for peace.

A flag may give a message.

Each color stands
for something.

Each pattern has a meaning.

The United States of America's
flag is red, white and blue.

In the blue of the sky

there is a star for each state.

The red and white stripes

stand for the thirteen states

which started the country.



Ships at sea use small flags

to give news to other ships.

Sailors learn to read

the language of flags.



flood



A flood is water
covering land
that is usually dry.

Too much rain can cause a flood.

Rivers rise.

The water goes over their banks.

A flood can be very serious.

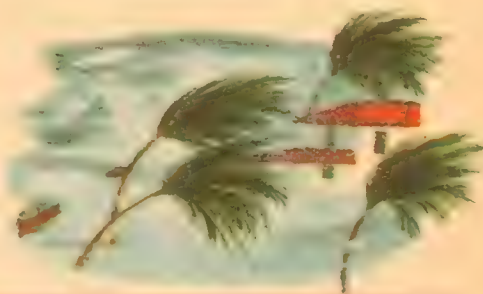
The water covers roads.

It runs into towns and houses.

It destroys crops.

People must leave their homes.

A storm at sea may cause floods.
The water dashes over a sea wall.
Or it breaks a hole in the wall.
And a flood covers the land.



flour



Most flour is made from grain.
Grain seeds are ground up fine
into powdery flour.

Plain flour used to be sold
only in big sacks.

Now it can also be bought
in packages already mixed
for cakes, cookies, and bread.

flour mill

A flour mill is a big factory.
It has tall elevators to hold grain.
It has big rollers to grind grain
into flour.

The flour is put into sacks.
It is shipped all over the country.



flower

Rose



The pretty part of a plant
is usually the flower.
Many plants have flowers.
Flowers lead to seeds.
And seeds start new plants.
The apple blossom is the flower
of the apple tree.
Without apple blossoms,
an apple tree
would never have apples
with seeds inside.
What happens?
Bees fly to the apple blossom
to suck its sweet juice.
Bees bring yellow pollen
from another apple blossom.
The pollen rubs off on the pistil,
a part of the apple blossom.
The pollen travels down
inside the pistil.
And it starts seeds growing
there.

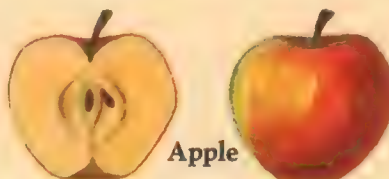


Apple Blossom

Now the work of the blossom
is done.

Its petals drop off.

The seed case grows and grows.



Apple

It becomes an apple.
Inside are the apple seeds.
From them new trees can grow.
Most trees have flowers.
Some are so small
we do not notice them.
Vegetables have flowers.
We eat the flowers
of cauliflower.
We eat the seeds
of corn and peas and beans
after the flowers are gone.



Some plants we grow
not for food
but just because the flowers
are pretty.

In our gardens we grow
many flowers—
roses and daisies,
sweet peas and pansies.

In the woods and meadows
we find wild flowers.
We find pussy willows.
We find violets.
We find buttercups.
We find Queen Anne's lace
and milkweed
and dandelions.



We grow hollyhocks and iris,
poppies and lilies,
tulips and lilies of the valley.
(See *garden* in the G book.)

Even in the desert flowers grow.
(See *desert* in the D book.)
There are flowers in the jungle.
There is hardly a place
in the world
where flowers do not bloom!

fog



Fog is a kind of cloud.
(See *cloud* in the C book.)
But fog is not high in the air,
like most clouds.
Fog is close to the ground.
It feels damp around us.
Clouds are mostly water.
So is fog.
It is very hard to see through.
At sea there are fog horns.
They warn ships of rocks

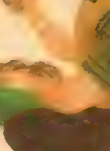


food



We need food
every day.
Our bodies
turn food
and drink
into bones
and muscle
and blood.

Food makes us grow.
It makes us strong.
It keeps us warm too.
Food is the fuel
for our bodies' engines.
(See *engine* in the E book.)



We eat many different foods.
Our bodies need them.
Some fruits and nuts,
fish and meat
and vegetables
come to us
from far away.
They come by ship
or train
or truck.
But in many lands
people eat
just what grows near by.
Some people eat
rice and fish
almost every day.



Some people eat bananas
for almost every meal.
Sometimes they have a little meat
or vegetables too.
Some people eat mostly
potatoes.
Some eat mostly corn meal
and beans.
They make flat corn-meal bread.
They roll up the beans
in the bread.
In the United States of America
most people can get
all the food they want.
That is why this country
is called the "Land of Plenty."

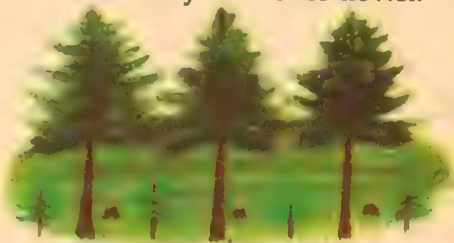


forest



A forest has many trees.
Trees give us wood.
We use wood for many things.
We use wood to build houses
and furniture.
(See *lumbering* in the L book.)
We use wood to make paper,
cellophane and tools.
Some medicines are made
from wood.
We burn wood for fuel.
Forests are important.
They are beautiful too.
Forests give us quiet shade.
They give homes to animals
and birds.
Lumbermen used to spoil
many forests.

They cut down all the trees.
Now they are more careful.
They plant new trees
when they cut some down.



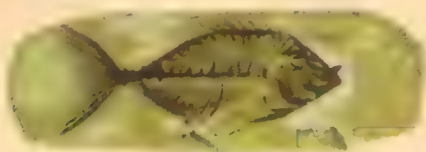
Forest fires spoil many forests.
We must be very careful
in forests
not to start a fire!
In very hot, wet lands,
rain forests or jungles grow.
(See *jungle* in the J book.)
(See *tree* in the T book.)

fossil



A fossil is all that remains
of a long-ago animal
or plant.

We find fossils in rocks.
They may be footprints.



They may be bones
or patterns of leaves.
Fossils tell us something
about life long, long ago.

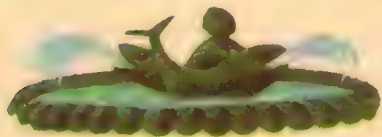
fountain

A fountain has water
spurting up out of it.

A fountain looks cool.

It sounds pleasant.

Many fountains are beautiful, too.



fruit



Some fruits are sweet.
Some fruits are good to eat.
They have seeds inside.
Some fruits have one seed.

Apricots,

peaches

plums

cherries

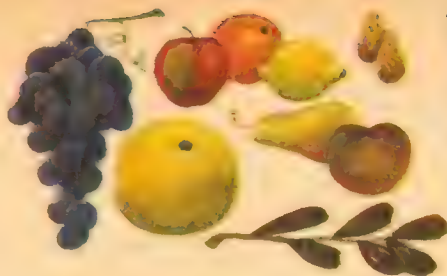
and avocado pears

have only one seed.

Some fruits have more seeds.

Watermelons and
other melons do.





Most grapes, apples, oranges,
lemons and grapefruit
have many seeds.
So do pears and persimmons
and dates and figs.



Bananas have only dots
where their seeds used to be.
Some berries are very seedy.



Strawberries
and raspberries
and gooseberries are.
But seedy or not,
we like to eat fruit.
And fruit is good for us.

furniture

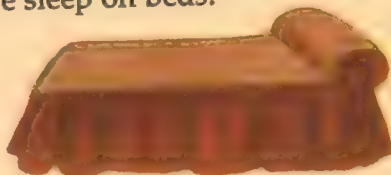
We use furniture in our homes.
We sit on chairs.



We eat from tables,
and put things on them.



We sleep on beds.



We keep clothes and supplies
in chests and cupboards.



We have desks to write at.
We have television sets
and lamps.

There are many kinds
of furniture.
The kind we have depends
on where and how we live.



For cold, drafty houses
people used to have
chairs with sides
to keep off the cold.



They had beds with curtains
to draw.



Some people built beds
in wall cupboards!



People have little furniture
in Japan.
They unroll mats or carpets
to sleep on.



They roll up their "beds"
during the day.
They do not care for chairs
like ours.



They sit on mats or on the floor.
If they have tables, they are low.
All the people have
their own ideas of how
to make a home comfortable.

fur



Seal

Many animals have coats of fur.
Fur is very thick hair.
People who live
where it is cold
like to wear coats
made of animal fur.



A fur coat is soft and warm.
Some people like to wear
fur coats
just to look nice.
Mink, beaver, seal,
muskrat, fox and rabbit
are some animals
which are raised or hunted
because people like
to wear their fur.



Mink

Fox

Beaver

Rabbit



